22. (Four Times Amended) A controller for processing requests for products comprising:

a database configured to store a set of bundle codes, each bundle code indicating at least two different products offered by at least two different providers;

a receiver configured to receive a request identifying a customer and including a bundle code;

a converter configured to convert a portion of the received request into at least one specifically-formatted provisioning request for each provider based on the received bundle code; and

a component configured to provide the provisioning requests to the providers to initiate a product supply process by each provider.

23. (Thrice Amended) The controller of claim 22, wherein the converter includes:

a decoder configured to decode the bundle code to identify the providers for the products.

24. (Amended) The controller of claim 22, wherein the component configured to provide the provisioning requests to the providers includes:

storage configured to store information from the received request as a customer record.

PATENT

Serial No.: 09/002,276

25. (Amended) The controller of claim 22, wherein the component configured to provide the provisioning requests to the providers includes:

a component configured to determine a means for providing each of the provisioning requests to the providers.

26. (Amended) The controller of claim 22, wherein the component configured to provide the provisioning requests to the providers includes:

a transmitter configured to electronically transmit the provisioning requests to the providers.

27. (Amended) The [billing] controller of claim 23, wherein the decoder includes: means for selecting product codes corresponding to the received bundle code from a stored table.

48. (Amended) A data processing system for processing requests for products comprising:

a request-processing gateway controller, connected to a central controller, configured to receive customer requests for at least two different products offered by at least two different providers; and

a service-provider gateway controller, connected to the central controller, configured to receive the customer requests via the central controller and to distribute specifically-formatted provisioning requests to each of the providers to initiate a product supply process by each of the providers.

Contid

